



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FMF UNIT 35601 FPO AP 96606-5601

> ForO 1900.1 1 11 JUN 1992

FORCE ORDER 1900.1

From: Commanding General To: Distribution List

Subj: TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

Encl: (1) Transition Assistance Topics

1. <u>Purpose</u>. The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) is provided to ensure every separating Marine receives certain transition assistance from the military community to the civilian community.

2. Information

- a. In November 1990 Congress mandated counseling concerning benefits and services for members being separated or recently separated from the Armed Forces. The Department of Defense (DOD) issued an implementing directive in April 1991. HQMC via ALMAR 109/92 directed commands to implement procedures to ensure every departing Marine attends mandatory counseling and has an opportunity to attend additional voluntary counseling.
- b. The Family Services Center (FSC), Marine Corps Base, Camp Butler provides the instruction for mandatory and voluntary counseling to Commanders of the III Marine Expeditionary Force. The enclosure lists various topics covered by the TAP.
- 3. <u>Action</u>. Commanders, III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) are requested to:
- a. Ensure each separating Marine attends the mandatory counseling and that separating Marines and spouses have an opportunity to attend the voluntary counseling that offers additional transition assistance services.
- b. Implement procedures to monitor the attendance of assigned Marines at mandatory counseling.
- c. Ensure separating Marines attend counseling sessions at the beginning of their final six months of active service.
- d. Provide monthly report of all Marines inadvertently separated without attending mandatory counseling to CMC (MH), copy

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to CG, III MEF (G-1). Commanders must also provide with this monthly report the Record of Emergency Data (RED) address and DD Form 214 address of all such personnel.

- e. Ensure a preseparation counseling acknowledgement form is signed by Marines within 180 days prior to separat on indicating that they have received the mandated counseling. This form is available through the FSC. The completed form will be placed on the document side of the service record for permanent filing.
- f. Ensure a copy of medical records of Marines being medically separated is transmitted by the separating unit (with members consent) within 1 day of separation to the regional VA office nearest where the Marine intends to relocate. Additionally, if requested provide a copy of the member's medical record to the medically separating Marine.

W. R. MCPHERSON Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: LIST I/II

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE TOPICS

- 1. Educational assistance, including the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) and other educational assistance programs.
- 2. Compensation and vocational rehabilitation entitlements offered under the departments of defense, labor, and veterans affairs (VA).
- 3. Procedures/advantages of affiliation with selected Marine Corps Reserves.
- 4. Information on government and private sector employment search/placement assistance.
- 5. Employment search/placement assistance for spouses.
- 6. Availability of relocation assistance services and benefits.
- 7. Availability of medical/dental coverage after separation.
- 8. Effect of career change on Marine and family (Marines and dependents).
- 9. Financial planning assistance.

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